THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The Government's attention has been drawn to the absence of satisfactory regulatory/monitorng mechanisms for promotion and usage of ISO Certificates and the ISO Certification System. Accordingly, Government proposes to undertake a comprehensive exercise to determine the existing practices relating to usage, validity and authenticity of ISO certification systems and ISO certificates with a view to streamline/ develop appropriate regulatory and monitoring mechanisms which can not only promote wider usage of the ISO certification system but also provide safeguards against incorrect usage/malpractices. To this end, Government further proposes to collect, compile and analyze the information from Ministries/Departments/PSUs/Organizations concerned. The information and the action proposed will be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest.

Mandatory ISO Certification

2250. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Government/PSUs are making ISO 9000 certification mandatory for a supplier's tender to be considered;

(b) if so, in the absence of any statutory monitoring mechanism to check the veracity of ISO certification, what advantage is going to accrue to Government or the PSU by insisting on ISO certification;

(c) whether because of this insistence, a large number of companies are adopting short-cuts by obtaining ISO certification from non-accredited franchisees or unauthentic certifying agencies; and

(d) if so, the action Government propose to take to stop this farce in the ISO certification process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The Government's attention has been drawn to the absence of satisfactory regulatory/monitoring mechanisms for promotion and usage of ISO Certificates and the ISO Certification System. Accordingly, Government proposes to undertake a comprehensive exercise to

determine the existing practices relating to usage, validity and authenticity of ISO certification systems and ISO certificates with a view to streamline/ develop appropriate regulatory and monitoring mechanisms which can not only promote wider usage of the ISO certification system but also provide safeguards against incorrect usage/malpractices. To this end, Government further proposes to collect, compile and analyze the information from Ministries/Departments/PSUs/Organizations concerned. The information and the action proposed will be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest.

Bye-Laws of Basic Chemicals Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council

2251. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various articles of the bye-laws that have been approved by Government for Basic Chemicals Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council for appointment of office bearers;

(b) whether some office bearers of the Council are facing trials for illegal imports and exports worth crores of rupees in violations under the DRI Act and articles of bye-laws of the Council; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to remove such office bearers of doubtful integrity and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Model Articles/bye-laws circulated by the Department of Commerce, have been adopted by Basic Chemicals Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL) on 8th February, 2001. The Articles/ bye-laws on appointment of office bearers are as under:—

Para 4.2:- "A candidate for election to any position in the council must satisfy the following conditions, nemely;

(a) He, or the entity represented by him, must have, to his or its credit, during the one financial year immediately preceding, exports of the products of not less than the amount of Rs.25 Lakhs for Small Scale Industries and Rs.1 Crore for others.